

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI,  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*36**

ANSWERED ON 08.12.2022

**ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA**

\*36 SHRI GYANESHWAR PATIL

SHRI NAYAB SINGH

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Atal Bhujal Yojana, an initiative for ensuring the long-term sustainability of ground water launched by the Government has achieved the desired results and if so, the details of the progress made under the scheme so far;
- (b) whether the scheme is efficient enough to provide any relief or growth in the farmer's income and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the scheme has achieved its objective of improving ground water conservation in the seven identified areas, particularly in Khandwa and Kurukshetra Parliamentary Constituencies and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. \*36 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.12.2022 REGARDING “ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA”.**

(a) Atal Bhujal Yojana was launched in selected water stressed areas of 7 States viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh in 2020 with the objective of community led sustainable ground water management.

The scheme is bringing behavioural change in the community in terms of awareness regarding status of availability and usage of ground water and how appropriate interventions can sustain it for future generations.

The communities in all 8,221 Gram Panchayats have been mobilised through existing Village and Water Sanitation Committees and their capacities have been built up through focused IEC and training programs in terms of ground water data collection and its importance in water budgeting for informed and decentralised decision making. 8,192 community led Water Security Plans (WSPs), having details about water budget and proposed demand side interventions such as micro-irrigation, crop diversification, use of pipelines etc, and supply side interventions such as check dams, farm ponds, recharge shafts and other artificial recharge / water conservation structures, have been prepared. Implementation of WSPs is being done in the field with active involvement of communities through convergence of various Central / State Government Schemes by concerned line departments.

(b) Yes, the scheme aims at sustainable ground water management which would ensure regular availability of water to the farmers and reduce the dependence on rain and thereby impact farmers' income positively.

(c) The objective of Atal Bhujal Yojana is community led sustainable ground water management. As per recent Ground Water Source Assessment 2022 published by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), through the efforts of Government of India, including this scheme, there has been improvement in some of the Blocks of Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Further, based on regular monitoring of wells by CGWB, decadal fluctuation of water level pre-monsoon 2022 compared to average of pre-monsoon 2012-2021 indicates that 91% and 73% of monitoring wells in Atal Jal Districts of Karnataka and Maharashtra, respectively, are showing rise in ground water level.

The scheme is being implemented in Shahbad, Ladwa and Pehowa Blocks of Kurukshetra District, Radaur Block of Yamunanagar District and Guhla Block of Kaithal District, which all fall under Kurukshetra Parliamentary Constituency. Water Security Plans of all the Gram Panchayats falling under these 5 Blocks have been prepared. The scheme is not being implemented in Khandwa Parliamentary Constituency.

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